

The

Whistle



Post

Official Newsletter of the

Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club

1615 Old Louisburg Rd Raleigh, NC 27604

Phone: 919-400-5570

“All Aboard”

January 2026

Well here we are starting a new year at the Club, and I hope you're ready for it. We have a lot of things coming up. Let's hope all of us get back to being healthy so we can enjoy them. It's been a rough start, with so many Board members sick that we have postponed the Board meeting and will combine it this month, with the Membership meeting. To all who were, and maybe still are under the weather, get well soon.

Remember to go shopping for your \$20 gift for the exchange at our Annual Dinner on the 21st at Golden Corral. For those that did not attend last year's event, the gift exchange is great fun, provides lots of laughs, and shows off a lot of great gifts for all who participate. I've got my gift wrapped already, and I can't wait to see who takes it home.

For all the HO people, there is a lot happening on the layout. New track being laid, Mount Witwer is taking shape once again, and there is lots of other work being done. Thanks to all who are working hard to make this a better layout to run on.

We have a couple of one day shows that we will be selling at, so if you plan on attending the shows, please sign up to help man the sales tables. Ken Howard has the details, so contact him to sign up. He will appreciate the help.

The Clubhouse is looking much, much better these days, thanks to our cleaning service. However, we still need to be taking out the trash regularly. This is especially true for food containers. Remember, if you bring it in, take it out. When you finish eating, take your trash out to your car. That way you won't "forget" to take it with you. No excuses accepted.

OK Trains on track 1. Got to go.

All Aboard

John Spach, President

“Pass the Hat” Year-end Charitable Donation

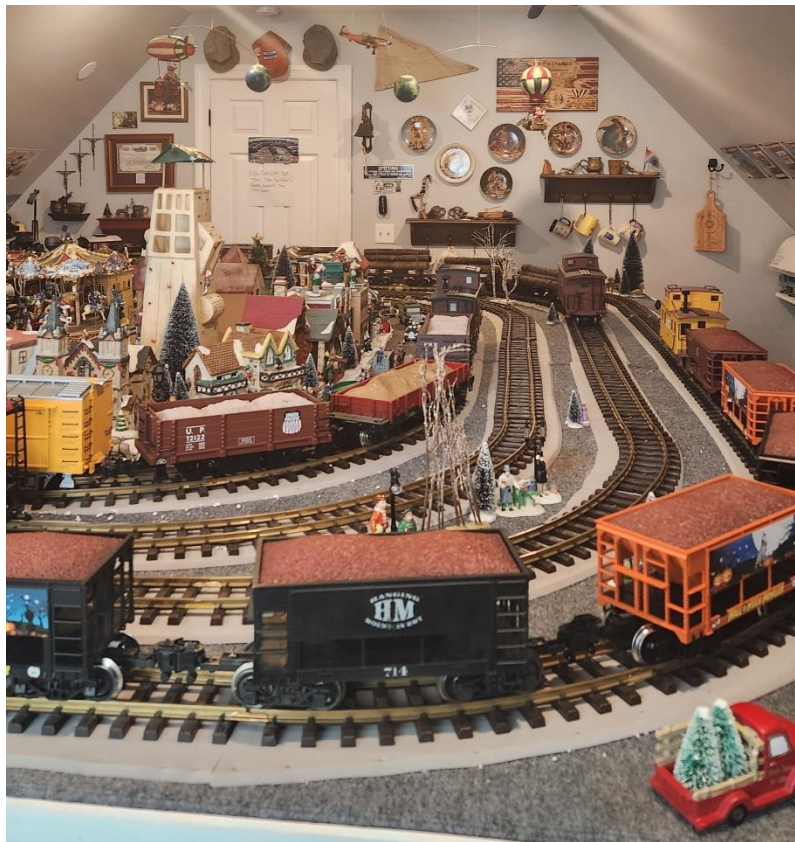
Once again, the Board of Governors’ has voted to support a year-end charity drive. As in past years, the Club will match member donations in an amount of up to \$500. The BoG has proposed splitting contributions between the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina and the Durham Rescue Mission, but members’ suggestions are welcome. **Collection of donations will close at the Membership Meeting on January 15, 2026.**

Doc Lou Monville - Open House – January 28, 2026

I would like to invite you to an Open House on Wednesday January 28th to see my train: it is now finished. We will begin at 11:00 am, after breakfast at Barry’s, and end after everybody goes home. No reservation is needed. Your children and grandchildren are definitely invited.

The Modoc, Amador, and Mandalay Rail Road has 3 levels. It has nine operating main lines. It has been fun building my last layout, I hope you will come and enjoy the operation of a standard gauge and S gauge railroad. It is fully sceniced and operational.

My address is 18 Javelin Ct., Clayton, NC 27520. My cell phone number is (760) 475-4866 and my email is imonville@verizon.net.



Third Annual Club Dinner -Reminder

The third annual NRV Club dinner will be held on **Wednesday, January 21, 2025**, beginning at 6:00 pm at the Golden Corral restaurant located at 3551 Grenelle Street, Raleigh, NC 27503. Please pay when you arrive at the restaurant, find a seat in our private dining room, and serve yourself from the buffet. Don't forget to bring a gift if you want to participate in our second gift exchange. Spouses and significant others are welcome to participate if they bring a gift. Please let Randy Foulke know if you plan to attend at randy.railfan@gmail.com.

Timonium Train Show Trip Reminder

The Timonium, MD train show is on January 31 and February 1, 2026. If you have an interest, please contact Randy Foulke at Barry's breakfast or by email at randy.railfan@gmail.com or by text to 919-649-8253. Note that this is not an "official" NRV sponsored event.

Upcoming Events

THIRD ANNUAL CLUB DINNER: *Wednesday, January 21, 2025, beginning at 6:00 pm at the Golden Corral restaurant located at 3551 Grenelle Street, Raleigh, NC 27503.*

LOU MONVILLE OPEN HOUSE: *Wednesday, January 28th after breakfast at Barry's. The Modoc, Amador, and Mandalay Rail Road is located at 18 Javelin Ct., Clayton, NC 27520. Come see the results of Doc Lou's efforts.*

CAROLINA COASTAL RAILROADERS: *30TH Annual Train Show, New Bern Riverfront Convention Center, February 21-22, 2026 from 9 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Admission for both days \$10 for 12 and up.*

MEBANE TRAIN SHOW: *Saturday March 14, 2026 from 9 am – 2pm at 209 West Jackson Street, Mebane, NC 27302. Please contact Ken Howard if you are interested in working the Club sales tables at this show.*

NRV OPEN HOUSE: *We have scheduled out Spring Open House for Saturday, May 2, 2026 from 10 am to 4 pm.*

BIG NEWS: *Our 2026 "Spring into Trains" show will move to the Jim Graham Building. The Club has secured the building in perpetuity for the third weekend in May. This year's dates are May 23-24, over the Memorial Day weekend. Plan Ahead!*

HO Layout Progress



New supporting foam and bracing are being installed for the completion of Mount Witwer. Greg Rehe, Bob Witwer, Chuck Larned, and John Spach shown finalizing plans for final terrain (Photo by Ken Howard).

Randy Foulke Trivia Question

What was the southernmost point of the mighty Pennsylvania Railroad?

See the answer and historical background on **Page 7**

Real Railroads

Ken Howard's Christmas trip to Arizona was a little light on real railroad action, but small gems sometimes pop up like the two preserved yard goats in the Phoenix area.



Arizona Copper No. 4 "La Nena" 0-4-0 saddle tank on static display in Glendale, AZ.



Davenport Locomotive Works 0-4-0 saddle tank on display in downtown Phoenix, AZ

Neat Links

Tom Garren forwarded the following links to parts 3 and 4 for Tom's Trains videos of our November, 2025 show.

https://youtu.be/8gqIF9g2ywU?si=nXklIC994nd-Z9_Q

https://youtu.be/Xwtg_xHpig8?si=KiAv48ERV-_tK37U

Tom Magnani forwarded the following link from **John Sokash** about his article about riding behind Reading & Northern #2102. It was published in The Local: the lead picture is on the first page and the article begins on page 21 and includes photos and videos of the trip.

https://www.mer-nmra.com/MEReLocal_Files/2026/elocal-v81i01-2026JanFeb.pdf

Upcoming Club Meetings and Activities

January Board of Governors Meeting: The January BoG meeting was postponed due to holidays and illnesses. It will be held at the Clubhouse in conjunction with the January Membership Meeting on Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

February Board of Governors Meeting: The next regularly scheduled BoG meeting will be held at the Clubhouse on Monday, February 2nd at 7:00 pm. Attendance via Zoom is optional.

January General Membership Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 pm at the Clubhouse. Alan Bradley will give the presentation following the meeting. The title of his presentation is, *The Demise of Narrow Gauge Railroading on the Denver & Rio Grande Western*.

January HO Committee Meeting: Scheduled for 1pm on January 18th.

Breakfast Social: Join us for the breakfast social every Wednesday, 9:00 am at Barry's Café, Raleigh, NC.

Notes from the Editor

Please send photos of Club activities to Brian Heaton, Webmaster, at bheaton1@gmail.com, so he can maintain and update our website. Also, don't forget to send your material, especially videos, to Ted Kunstling at trkunstling@aol.com so that he can keep our Facebook site current.

Please support the Club's new Instagram site by submitting videos of operations on the NRV layouts to Alec Urban at alec.urban@icloud.com. Alec is managing the new site.

Please send articles, photos of real trains, Club activities, book reviews, product reviews, photographs of your home layouts, and interesting links to Ken Howard, Whistle Post Editor, at klhowardjr@aol.com.

Minutes of Membership, Board, HO, and N Committee's Meetings

Minutes of Board of Governors, Membership, and HO and N Committee meetings are available on the Club website. The link below takes you directly to the Minutes page:

<https://nrvclub.net/meeting-minutes/>

Randy Foulke Trivia Question Answer:

The southernmost point of the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR) was in Norfolk, Virginia. The location was on a curve with a turnout just to the south of North Junction. The trackage was jointly owned by the original Norfolk Southern (NS), the Norfolk and Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad (NPB), and the PRR.

The PRR reached Norfolk by a rail line down the Delmarva Peninsula. At the southern tip of the peninsula, the line split at Bay View with the western leg terminating at the ferry slip at Cape Charles, VA and the eastern leg terminating at the ferry slip at Kiptopeke, VA. A PRR owned railcar ferry traveled between Cape Charles and the ferry slip just north of Little Point, and a railcar ferry that travelled between Kiptopeke and Ocean Beach. The Kiptopeke/Ocean Beach ferry was abandoned in the mid-20th Century.

From the ferry slip north of Little Point, jointly owned trackage by the NPB and PRR proceeded south to junction at Camden Heights. A large yard was located at Little Point jointly owned by the NPB and the PRR. From the junction at Camden Heights, trackage jointly owned by the NS, NPB and PRR, travelled west to a crossing of the Virginian Railway (VGN) at Coleman Place. The VGN line serviced the coal loading facility at Sewells Point.

The NS/NPB/PRR line continued on from Coleman Place southwest to North Junction, eventually turning northwest to a connection with the Norfolk & Western (NW) at Barre Avenue. The NW line serviced the coal loading facility at Lamberts Point. The PRR may have had trackage rights over the NW south to Lovitt Avenue in downtown Norfolk.

The trackage down the Delmarva Peninsula, the ferry across the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, and the trackage from the Little Point ferry slip to the Barre Avenue connection with the NW were constructed in 1884 by a subsidiary to the PRR, the New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk Railroad (NYP&N). Eventually the NYP&N was incorporated into the PRR proper. Conrail spun off the trackage down the Delmarva Peninsula, the ferry, and the trackage from Little Point to Barre Junction to the Eastern Shore Railroad. The Eastern Shore Railroad terminated operation with the Delmarva Central Railroad taking over. Some of the lines on the southern end of the peninsula have been abandoned along with ferry operation. The lines from Little Point to the Barre Avenue are now operated by the NPB and the new Norfolk Southern.

Note that the trackage on the Delmarva Peninsula services NASA's Wallops Flight Facility.

Source: Walker, M, *Comprehensive Railroad Atlas of North America, Appalachia and Piedmont*, Steam Powered Publishing, Dawes Road, Dunkirk, Faversham, Kent ME 13 9UU U.K.

NRV Whistle Post
The Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club, Inc.
1615 Old Louisburg Road
PO Box 19573
Raleigh, NC 27619-9573

First Class

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

John Spach	President	jtspach@earthlink.net	919-361-3650
Ken Howard	Vice-President	klhowardjr@aol.com	919-851-3805
Schaefer O'Neill	Treasurer	schaefer.oneill@gmail.com	919-740-6923
Tom Garren	Secretary	tomgar@mindspring.com	919-805-0909
Richard Calfee (Calfee)	At-Large	rhcalfree@yahoo.com	301-335-1054
George Sawyer	At-Large	gsawyer@ix.netcom.com	919-469-0442
Bob Witwer	At-Large	bobwitwer@gmail.com	919-632-0785

OTHER KEY POSITIONS

Bob Witwer	Show Chairman	bobwitwer@gmail.com	919-632-0785
Clif Kelly	Membership Chair	bkelly11@nc.rr.com	919-614-8891
Ted Kunstling	Social Media Chair	trkunstling@aol.com	919-787-5282
Wayne Aiken	Librarian	htomc42@hotmail.com	919-602-8529
Ken Howard	Newsletter Editor	klhowardjr@aol.com	919-851-3805
Brian Heaton	Webmaster	bheaton1@gmail.com	765-427-6541

WEB SITE www.nrvclub.net